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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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Tennessee Real Estate Commission Presents Bill Tune Award of Excellence in Real Estate Education

Nashville, TN - - The Tennessee Real Estate Commission (TREC) announces Don Klein as the recipient of the prestigious Bill Tune Award of Excellence in Real Estate Education. Klein is Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Nashville Association of Realtors (GNAR).

"This is a very humbling moment," said Klein. "It is my privilege to build on the foundation of those who preceded me here at GNAR, to extend what they put in place. It is affirming and gratifying to see our members grow and succeed in what is a very rewarding profession."

Klein was named CEO of GNAR in 2007. He served a decade as executive vice president of the association. During that time, the association moved from downtown Nashville to its campus in Grassmere Office Park. The association experienced significant growth in membership, and expanded its education and professional development opportunities. There was also greater membership participation in the annual convention, annual golf tournament supporting Habitat for Humanity, membership meetings and other organization activities.

"There are two words that come to mind in describing Don's commitment to real estate education . . . passion and professionalism," said TREC Chairman Charles Haynes. "He helped develop GNAR's beautiful campus and exceptional facility, which is used to provide outstanding pre-license and professional development classes. What makes Don unique is that his commitment to education and professional development goes well beyond the classroom. He has done great work in helping educate the public on the value of using a real estate professional when buying, selling or leasing real estate."

"The Greater Nashville Association of Realtors and the real estate profession at large benefit greatly from Don's passion and professionalism," said Mandy Wachtler, president of GNAR. "His commitment to improvement and providing encouragement and motivation makes him more deserving of this recognition."

Originally from Muskegon, Mich., Klein attended John Brown University in Arkansas, the University of Oklahoma and Tennessee State University. He began his career in

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Nashville in 1980 as Publicity Director for Paragon Associates/The Benson Company. He then spent 11 years with Brumfield-Gallagher Public Relations. Klein then created his own firm, Don Klein & Associates. Prior to joining GNAR, Klein worked with public relations firm Dye, Van Mol and Lawrence.

Klein is a past president and current advisory board member of the Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity, past president and current board member of Christian Leadership Concepts, past president of Salama Urban Ministries and elder of Christ Presbyterian Church.

For more information on the Tennessee Real Estate Commission, visit <http://tennessee.gov/commerce/boards/trec/>.

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